

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 221730Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1891
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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USMISSION NATO
AMCONSUL MILAN
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USDOCOSOUTH

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PINR, IT
SUBJECT: MSI PARLIAMENTARY GROUP SPLITS

REF: ROME 16694

1. THE LONG-AWAITED SPLIT IN ITALY'S NEO-FASCIST ITALIAN
SOCIAL MOVEMENT (MSI) BEGAN TO HAPPEN DECEMBER 23. SEVENTEEN
(OR 18 ACCORDING TO SOME PRESS REPORTS) OF MSI'S 34 DEPUTIES
BROKE AWAY TO FORM A SEPARATE "NATIONAL DEMOCRACY" (DN) PAR-
LIAMENTARY GROUP. HOWEVER, OUTSIDE PARLIAMENT, DN HAS NOT
YET FORMALLY BROKEN AWAY FROM THE MSI. DN FORMED ITS CHAMBER
OF DEPUTIES GROUP JUST IN TIME TO RECEIVE PART OF THE OFFICIAL
SUBSIDY DUE MSI IN JANUARY. DN ALSO CLAIMS NINE OF FIFTEEN
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MSI SENATORS, ONE SHORT OF THE NUMBER NEEDED TO FORM A SEPARATE
GROUP THERE.

2. THE DN GROUP IS EXPECTED TO ABSTAIN OR VOTE IN FAVOR OF
THE ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT, WHICH IT OPPOSED WHILE IN MSI.
OTHER PARTIES REACTED COOLLY AND WITH SUSPICION TO DN'S EMER-

GENCE. DESPITE ITS INTENTION TO SHED THE FASCIST LABEL, DN
WILL PROBABLY REMAIN DISREPUTABLE AND BEYOND THE PALE IN THE
ITALIAN POLITICAL CONTEXT. BEAUDRY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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